

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph on page 10 beginning on line 12 as follows:

Referring now to Fig. 1, an exemplary mobile x-ray imaging system 10, or generally, an “x-ray scanner”, applicable with a portable x-ray detector incorporating the present invention is shown. An x-ray source 12 is mounted or otherwise secured to an end of horizontal arm 20. Arm 20 allows the x-ray source 12 to be variably positioned above a subject in such a manner so as to optimize irradiation of a particular area of interest. The x-ray source 12 is typically mounted through a gimbal type arrangement (not shown) in column 14. In this regard, the x-ray source may be rotated vertically from a rest or park position on the mobile x-ray unit base 16 to the appropriate position above the subject in order to take an x-ray exposure of the subject. The rotational movement of column 14 is typically limited to a value of 360 degrees or less to prevent entanglement of high voltage cables 18 used to provide electrical power to the x-ray source 12. Cables 18 may be connected to a utility line source (not shown) or a battery (not shown) in the base 16 to energize the x-ray source 12 as well as other electronic components of the system 10. One skilled in the art will appreciate that system 10 may be equipped or connectable to a display unit (not shown) for the display of images captured from the imaging subject. As will be described more fully below, the mobile system may include a retractable storage bin 21 for storage of an x-ray detector within base 16. The storage bay may also be constructed to regulate the temperature of the stored x-ray detector using passive as well as active thermal control techniques. While only a single stored x-ray detector is shown, it is contemplated that the storage bin may be sized to hold multiple x-ray detectors. Additionally, it is preferred that the storage bin snugly receive each x-ray detector to limit movement, vibration, stresses, and the like on the stored x-ray detector when the x-ray scanner is being transported. In this regard, the storage bin may include foam or other deformable material to receive an x-ray detector in a tightly fashion as well dampen any force that may otherwise be placed on a stored detector when the x-ray scanner is jarred.